

TRAFFIC COMMISSION
March 24, 2011 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Burbank Traffic Commission was held in the City Council Chambers, 275 E. Olive Avenue, on the above date. Brian Malone, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

Members Present: Brian Malone, Chair
Paul McKenna, Jr., Vice Chair
Gregory Bragg
Rebecca Granite-Johnson
Barry Gussow
Robert Heins
Ralph Herman
David Justl
Joe Terranova

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Ken Johnson—Traffic Engineering, Public Works
Sandy George—Recording Secretary, Public Works
Jeanne Keeler— Parking Analyst, Public Works
Rabie Rahmani—Principal Civil Engineer, Public Works
Rebekka Hosken—Administrative Analyst II, Public Works
Sgt. Kelly Frank—Police Department, Traffic
David Kriske—Principal Planner, Community Development

I. FLAG SALUTE

II. ROLL CALL

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: (Limited to items on the printed agenda or items regarding the business of the Traffic Commission)

A. Public Communication

Mr. Rolf Darbo asked questions about the Alameda North Neighborhood Protection Program (NPP).

B. Commission Member and Subcommittee Communications

Mr. McKenna asked if the City could limit the number of times a particular location is allowed to be blocked off for activities such as filming.

Mr. Gussow described how the School Safety Subcommittee will be resending the letter that was previously sent to school principals. A number of principals have not responded and would be given a second chance to do so. Mr. Johnson indicated the sweeping times around schools will be re-examined.

C. Staff Communication

Mr. Johnson notified St. Joseph's Hospital of the Traffic Commission's rejection of Bowers Ambulance's application for an operating permit. Costco and the Empire Center have been contacted about the signal timing at their exits, but no

response has been received from the Empire Center. New Historical Museum signs have been approved and are being installed.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McKenna moved to discuss and approve the minutes from the February 24, 2011 meeting, Mr. Heins seconding the motion. Mr. Justl and Mr. Terranova suggested a few changes to the draft minutes. The minutes, with the suggested changes, were approved unanimously, with Ms. Granite-Johnson, Mr. Bragg and Mr. Gussow abstaining.

V. REPORTS

A. Parking in Magnolia Park (Johnson)

A new public parking lot is proposed near the Magnolia Park area. Mr. Malone, Mr. Terranova, Mr. Gussow and Ms. Keeler participated in the discussion.

B. MCA/Universal Mitigation Measures (Kriske)

Mr. Kriske described the upcoming proposed expansion of the MCA/Universal property in Universal City. The City is able to provide comments on the project, but does not have decision-making power. Concern was expressed over a potential increase in traffic caused by the expansion.

Mr. McKenna moved to inform City Council of the Traffic Commission's support of the two letters sent by the Planning Department to the City of Los Angeles regarding the above project: Mr. Forbes' letter dated January 28, 2011 and Mr. Kriske's letter dated December 21, 2009, adding that the City of Burbank should not settle for anything less than acceptance of all of staff's suggested mitigations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heins and approved unanimously.

Mr. Malone, Mr. Terranova, Mr. Herman, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Justl, Mr. Heins, and Ms. Granite-Johnson participated in the discussion.

C. Flat and Short Trip Taxi Fares (Johnson)

Mr. Johnson shared information gathered about flat and short trip taxi fares in Burbank and nearby cities. Mr. Shatakhyan, General Manager of G&S Transit/City Cab, agrees with having a flat fee in Burbank.

Mr. Herman moved to have the discussion of short trip fares be brought back as an agenda item in June, seconded by Mr. Bragg, approved unanimously. Mr. Malone, Mr. Justl, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Shatakhyan, Mr. Herman, Mr. McKenna, and Mr. Bragg participated in the discussion.

Mr. Bragg left the meeting.

D. LNCV Status Report (Keeler)

City Council did not approve the permit fee and citation fine suggested by staff in early March, but directed them to develop an interim online permit process, similar to that used by License and Code to issue Garage Sale permits.

Mr. Herman moved to ask City Council what the timeframe is on implementation of the LNCV online process, seconded by Mr. Gussow. The motion passed 5-3, with Mr. Justl, Ms. Granite-Johnson and Mr. Terranova dissenting. Mr. Johnson and all Commission members present participated in the discussion.

E. School Traffic Safety Subcommittee – Roosevelt School (Rahmani)

Attempts by staff to speak with the new principal of Roosevelt Elementary School have been unsuccessful. However, the Subcommittee has previously evaluated the school, and has suggestions for improving traffic safety there. Mr. Malone, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Gussow and Mr. Justl participated in the discussion.

F. Status of Truck Routes in Burbank (Johnson)

Commission members suggested additional/alternate truck routes, and responded to staff's suggested routes with the idea of modernizing the City's truck route system.

In the interest of time, Mr. Terranova moved to postpone further discussion of this item and item G until June. Mr. McKenna seconded the motion, which was passed by all Commission members present. Mr. Malone, Mr. Terranova, Sgt. Frank, Mr. Herman, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Justl, Mr. Gussow, and Ms. Granite-Johnson participated in the discussion.

G. Modified Left Turn Signal Detection (Johnson)

This item was postponed until June (see above motion made). However, brief discussion ensued about grant monies recently received allowing the City to test left turn detection that is further away from signals, specifically those at Buena Vista St and Verdugo Ave. Mr. Malone and Mr. Herman participated in the discussion.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

April

1. Taxi Needs and Necessity Hearing (Annual)
2. Taxi Operating Permit Allocation (Annual)

May

1. Taxicab Report (Monthly)
2. LNCV Status Report (Monthly)

3. Magnolia/San Fernando pedestrian crosswalk (December 2010)
4. Commercial Vehicle Parking Restrictions (July 2008)
5. Traffic Calming (March 2008)
6. Vehicles for Sale on Public Streets

June

1. Flat Rate Taxi Fare Structure (December 2010, postponed from 3/24/11)
2. Status of Truck Routes in Burbank (June 2009, postponed from 3/24/11)
3. Progress of the Olive Avenue Streetscape Project (March 2010)
4. Installation of Additional Audible Traffic Signals (January 2011)
5. Modified Left Turn Signal Detection (October 2010)

School Safety Subcommittee (Mr. Gussow, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Heins-advisor)

1. Parking Near Schools at Dismissal Time on Street Sweeper Day (June 2009)
2. Bicycle Helmet Education (September 2009)
3. Edison Parking Issues
4. Burroughs Traffic Issues
5. Lincoln Street Traffic

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Gussow moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:58pm, seconded by Mr. Herman. The motion was approved by all present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, April 28th, 2011, at 4:00pm, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 275 E Olive Ave, Burbank CA.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Johnson, Traffic Engineer
KJ: smg